

MID-TOWN MUSINGS

Bulletin of The Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town

R. I. President
Sakuji Tanaka

District Governor
Dr. Balkrishna Inamdar

Club President
RP Anand



District 3140

June is Rotary Fellowship Month

President's Address

Dear Fellow Rotarians,



The CCC&B Fellowship at Wodehouse Gymkhana on Wednesday, May 8 was as usual a happy occasion to celebrate the birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

For those who missed the installing function of the New Look Benches at Kamla Nehru Park, Malabar Hill I arranged a revisit on Sunday, May 12,

I personally took the Rotarians around the park and showed them the benches placed at different spots in the garden. Apart from the Rotarians, many regular morning walkers also participated and thanked Rotary Club.

Our Annual Awards night and Fellowship evening was on Friday, May 24, 2013 at the 'Sunville' Banquet Hall. Trophy and Replica were awarded to Rotarians in appreciation of their contribution to 'Rotary Service' and to the 16 members who were able to maintain their 100 per cent attendance in the Club. The presentation ceremony was compared by PP Rahul Mehta in his hilarious style.

Our Rotarians PP Rahul Mehta, Rajiv Kapur, Dr. Anil Tibrewala and Rajesh Tandon offered to entertain with their melodious voice – singing old Bollywood Hits of 70s and 80s supported by Mrs. Julie Tandon, Mrs Shivani daughter-in-law of Sucharita Hegde, and Abhishek Mane. To each one a big thank you and God bless!

The distribution of various mobility appliances to the disabled was done on June 1, 2013 at Ambernath, through the support of RC Bombay Mid Town and FUCHS Lubricants (I) Pvt. Ltd., Present at the camp were Rotarians: PP Kersi Hilloo, PE. James Brunner, Gaurav Kapadia, Narendra Mohatta, Mrs. Indira Brunner and Mrs. Binaifer Hilloo and myself, we distributed various supporting gadgets.

I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the support, guidance, and encouragement you have provided me during my tenure at various events executed during 2012-13. As I conclude my term on June 30, 2013 I shall treasure all the good moments spent with you from time to time.

I have enjoyed my tenure as Rotary President and I appreciate having had the opportunity to work with dedicated Rotarians who supported me through out, especially Kamlesh Sonawala, PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth, PP Navin Shah, and PP Rahul Mehta.

It was with the help of generous few I was able to collect a substantial amount for executing my community service projects during the year :

- i. Distribution of mobility aids and appliances to the Handicapped and hosted 25 handicapped team members to run the "Mumbai Marathon".
- ii. Mid-Day Meals to children of Municipal Schools;
- iii. Installing new benches at a) Kamla Nehru Park-Malabar Hill, b) Worli Sea Face and d) 'Mukesh Memorial' at Mukesh Chowk;
- iv. Sakwar Village area Adivasi Development and Vocational Centre in association with R.K Mission.

Thanks to our three Rotary office staff – Allan, Parab and Anil for their full co-operation.

Even though I will be taking a back seat as IPP after the year ends, I shall always be available to help my successor Rtn. James Brunner who will be taking charge from July 1, 2013 as the President of the most prestigious club in District 3140. All the best James!

Once again, thanks so much for everything. It's been a pleasure working for this prestigious club.

- R.P. Anand



Dr. Pratap Sapat, Dr. Shanti Shahani, Shobha Sapat, Elinor Mirza, Manoj Jalan, RP Anand, Bhaskar and Usha Khira, Urmila Mehra, Kiran Shah, Burjor Nariman, Radha and Lalit Goculdas, Mohan Shahani, Yogesh and Usha Pandya, Shankar Sujan and Rajen Patel



Maharuk Nariman, Nazneen Patel, Burjor Nariman and Yogesh Pandya



PP Mohan Shahani, PP Ajoy Bhandare and Jamshed Patel



Fatima Baldiwala, Rita Shah and Meryum Kajiji



Meenu and Rajeev Anand, Siddharth and Gargi Mukherjee, Kiran and Malti Shah



Shobha Sapat, Bhaskar Khira, RP Anand, Usha Khira, Urmila Mehra, Kiran Shah, Mohan and Shanti Shahani



Awards Night – A great end to a great year

Awards Night was held at Sunville on Friday, May 24 and it turned out to be a fun-filled evening, with a good gathering of Rotarians and their spouses. The first part of the evening was all about awards, and you can see the full list of awardees alongside. Our inimitable president Rtn. R.P. Anand was awarded the trophy for "Best Rotarian of the Year", and deservedly so. Dr. Shirish Sheth presented him with the award, and spoke a little about his tenure as President, and thanked him for a wonderful year. President R.P. Anand had stressed on his desire to improve fellowship during his presidency, and undoubtedly has achieved that. Another remarkable achievement was that he decided to have no fund-raising during his term, and yet was still able to raise a record collection for the Club! Our President thanked all Rotarians for giving him so much support, but singled out Rtn. Kamlesh Sonawala, Dr. Shirish Sheth, Rtn. Rahul Mehta, and Rtn. Navin Shah, to whom he presented small trophies as a token of his appreciation for all they

had done for him. The vote of thanks was given by Rtn. Manoj Jalan, and everyone was then ready to enjoy the musical evening ahead!

Our own very talented Rotarians – Dr. Anil Tibrewala, Rtn. Rajiv Kapur, Rtn. Rajesh Tandon and his wife Julie, entertained us the whole evening with wonderful songs. They were assisted by a few other singers, and even our PP. Atul Premnarayan sang a song! Everyone stayed well beyond dinner, just to enjoy the music, and towards the end of the evening some couples even took to the dance floor! The food was good as usual, and we can thank the staff at Sunville for their great service and big thanks to Zeba Kohli for her support.

The year has just flown by, and it is hard to believe that the new team will be in place shortly, under the guidance of President Elect Rtn. James Brunner. We can look forward to many more evenings of fun and fellowship, and a great year ahead!

– Report by R/Ann Manika Krishnamurti

Name of Trophy	Awarded to Rotarian FOR 2012-13
PP Satya Bhushan Anand Trophy for Club Service	Rtn. Sucharita Hegde
Late Dayaram Santdas Kamlani Trophy for Community Service	Rtn. Nirbhay Jain
PP Yoginder Shankardas Trophy for Service to Youth	Rtn. Manoj Jalan
PP Dr. Firoze Mirza Trophy for Vocational Service	Rtn. Arrow Sinha Roy
PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth Trophy for Outstanding Performance by a New Member	Rtn. Dr. Deepak Garg
PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth Trophy for Outstanding Performance by a Past President	PP Mohan Lalvani
Late Shamdas Malaney Trophy for Best Project Medical	Rtn. Dr. Anil Tibrewala
Shreeprakash Agarwal Trophy for Outstanding Sr. Active Member	Rtn. B. R. Barwale
Murlidhar Jalan Trophy for Environment Protection	Rtn. Yogesh Pandya / Rtn. Dinyar Jamshedji
PP Adil Kajiji Trophy for Best Rotaract Activity	Rotaract Club of Lala Lajpatrai College
PP V.B. Haribhakti Trophy for Outstanding Interact Activity	
Late Firoze Baldiwala Trophy for Most Active Couple	Rtn. Kersi & Binaifer Hiloo
Kishor Jhaveri Trophy for Best Rotary Couple	PP Rtn. Anil & Dr Sandhya Kamath
Dinyar Jamshedji Trophy for Best Rotarian of the Year	President Rtn. R.P. Anand
PP Navin Shah Trophy for The Most Caring Rotarian	Rtn. Kamlesh Sonawala
Praful Sheth Trophy for Whole-hearted Club Participation	Rtn. Narendra Mohatta
PP Dr. Kirit Mody Trophy for Outstanding Endeavour to bring about Social Change	Rtn. Prasanna Bhagat
PP Mohan Shahani Trophy for 'Best Club Partner NGO'	S.K. Chakshu Foundation
Late Usha Lalvani for "Best Lady"	Rtn. Nargis Wadia
Kishore Jhaveri Trophy For IW member attending maximum	Ms Ashok Mehta
PP Rustom Davar Trophy For Significant achievement award	PP Rtn. Navin H. Shah
Rtn. Kamlesh Sonawala Trophy in memory of his father Late Shantilal N. Sonawala for Best Community Project - Non Medical	Rtn. Kishore Sharma
Rtn. Dr. Prakash Mody Trophy in memory of his father Late Amrutlal Mody for Best Committee of the Year	Rtn. Kamlesh Sonawala Fund Raising Committee



In Appreciation of Support to the Club Rotary Year 2012-2013

Dr. Anil Tibrewala
Rajiv Kapur
Rajesh Tandon
Dr. Dilip Nadkarni
Abhishek Mane

In Appreciation of Support to the Club President Rotary Year 2012-2013

Rtn. PP Navin H. Shah
Rtn. PDG Dr. Shirish S. Sheth
Rtn. Kamlesh S. Sonawala
Rtn. Rahul N. Mehta

100% Attendance Award 2012-13

Rtn. PP Anil Ambo
Rtn. Satya Bhushan Anand
Rtn. R. P. Anand
Rtn. PP Mehernosh Currawalla
Rtn. Arvind Doshi
Rtn. PP Lalit Goculdas
Rtn. PP Kersi Hiloo
Rtn. Murlidhar Jalan
Rtn. Manoj Jalan
Rtn. Gaurav Kapadia
Rtn. Munna Mitha
Rtn. Narendra Mohatta
Rtn. Yogesh Pandya
Rtn. Jamsheed Patel
Rtn. PP Arrow Sinha Roy
Rtn. PP Shaleh Tyebjee

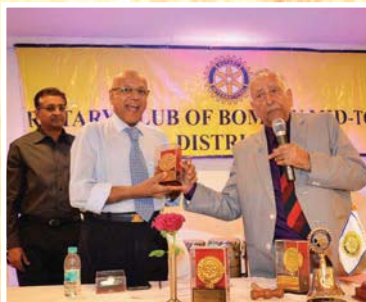
Dear Pres. R.P. Anand,

Thank you for your letter invite for your annual awards and fellowship function on the 24th, which I was unable to attend as I was away.

I am sure it would have been a grand event as your Club is know for.

Wishing you, all awardees and your members the very best.

Regards,
Ajay Gupta, DGN 14-15



The Female Ward

Ms. Debalina Haldar, a young speaker who has written a book titled 'The Female Ward' grew up in Kolkata. She is the author of a number of short stories, including 'By-lane Dreamers', for which she was awarded the Critics' Choice Award by Illuminati in 2011. Debalina studied at Calcutta Girls' High School and Mahadevi Birla Secondary Girls' High School, and later finished her studies in engineering from Durgapur. She currently works as a design engineer in Pune.



Speaker Debalina Haldar

Debalina's first novel is titled 'The Female ward', which she wrote after being falsely accused, along with two other engineering students, of ragging another student so brutally that she attempted suicide. It is a thought-provoking and moving story of a falsely accused girl, and her realization of the injustices that lie at the heart of the society. The three accused girls were imprisoned for twenty-four days before their case was heard and they were finally given bail.

This traumatizing episode has given Debalina a wealth of experience at a young age. While her experience of being a prisoner was shocking in the extreme, at the same time, the kindness of the other inmates, defenceless, illiterate women, has touched her deeply. Debalina recounted the deplorable conditions under which these women were living. These women lived in extreme conditions and were many times served cockroach infested food. To Debalina, and to many others like her, it is an India they did not know about. Unfortunately, Debalina had now seen it, and even lived it for a short while. Importantly, for her, it's a realization

that until India starts to care enough to tackle illiteracy and poverty, it will never be able to call itself a developed nation.

Another part of the experience that these three girls lived through was degrading and traumatizing and it taught Debalina nothing but cynicism. The Indian media hounded the three girls at every opportunity and they realised the media's awesome strength. However, her experience with the police was to the contrary. She found the police to be more understanding and humane.

She found a wealth of injustice lying at the heart of the supposedly civil society that India is, and was forced to question not only herself, but the very foundations upon which human societies are built.

In the book, Debalina reveals how good it is to be in an engineering college. But at the heart of her story is the hideous tradition of 'ragging' that goes on in Indian colleges despite the fact that it is a criminal offence. She herself had to face it as a student and knows how demeaning the practice can be. Ragging at its most harmless is embarrassing and silly, but at its worst, it attempts to prevent individual students from independent thinking, attempts, in fact, to eradicate free will.

DATE: Wednesday, April 24, 2013

SPEAKER: Ms. Debalina Haldar

SUBJECT: The Female Ward: True life story on personal experiences

INTRODUCED BY: R/Ann Indira Chandrasekhar

VOTE OF THANKS: Rtn. Sucharita Hegde

- Report by Rtn. Sunil Gautam



A memento presented to Debalina Haldar



Speaker Debalina Haldar in conversation with Pres. RP Anand, Indira Brunner and Ashwin Shah

On Investing and Beyond – Doing what comes (un)naturally



Our guest speaker Mehul Zatakia



Speaker receives a memento

Mr. Mehul Zatakia is a Financial Advisor with Sykes and Ray Equities. He specialises in equity investments. He also conducts research on financial planning and retirement planning for the benefit of his clients. He has regularly been giving talks on financial topics linked to equities, investments and financial planning. The talk for the afternoon was titled “On Investing and beyond – Doing what comes (un)naturally.”

The topic itself was intriguing and Mr. Zatakia started off by saying that the human mind is like a parachute. It works only when it's open. He said that his goal was to change the way people have been thinking over a lifetime in the course of a 20-minute talk. Having set this somewhat ambitious goal, he said his talk was in two parts. The first part was somewhat conventional. He said that all of us play multiple roles in our lives. These roles can be that of a spouse, parent, teacher, doctor, sibling, and so on. Another role that most of us play is that of a money / investment manager for our family. Also, given the importance that people give to money these days, the role of being a money manager is given more focus – even at the cost of neglecting important things like one's health.

In order to accumulate wealth over a lifetime, he said that it is important to select asset classes properly and he said that for younger persons with a longer time horizon, asset classes like equity and real estate would be better than things like bank fixed deposits or gold. Within equities, it is important to buy the right stock at the right price and if one does not understand this, one should stay away. He said that most members of the RCBM were already wealthy enough and he did not want to spend more time on the ‘Accumulation of Wealth Phase’ of his presentation.

He moved on to part two of his talk by asking a provocative question, “How much wealth does one need?” There were answers ranging from ₹25 crore to nothing is enough. Mr. Zatakia went on to answer his own question. He

started off by saying that there is a difference between needs and wants. Needs are limited and wants tend to be unlimited. To meet the needs of a person, 15 times the annual expenditure of that person in terms of accumulated wealth is sufficient. To take care of inflation and some indulgences (wants) we can accumulate up to 50 times our annual expenditure. Any wealth in excess of 50 times one's annual expenditure is something that will not be consumed in our lifetime and serious thought needs to be given as to the utilisation of that surplus.

Mr. Zatakia pointed out that culturally, by default we leave our surplus wealth to our children. However in many cases it spoils the children or does more harm than good. We should also evaluate the needs and absorption capacity of our children before just handing over all the wealth to them.

He gave the following options for the surplus wealth

1. Spend more money on yourself. Do not be penny pinchers otherwise you will save over a lifetime of stinginess and your children will splurge.
2. Give some money to your children based on their needs and after proper evaluation.
3. Reward your deserving staff who have helped you create all this wealth in the first place.
4. Give money to charity and do what Rotarians like Arrow Sinha Roy have been teaching us.

Finally he said that the road to success and the road to happiness may be two different paths and it may not be worthwhile pursuing success at the cost of happiness.

DATE: Wednesday, May 15, 2013

SPEAKER: PP Rtn. Mehul Zatakia

SUBJECT: On Investing & beyond: Doing what comes (un)naturally

INTRODUCED BY: Rtn. Parag Parikh

VOTE OF THANKS: PP Rtn. Arrow Sinha Roy

– Report by Rtn. Rajeev Thakkar

Revisiting Kamla Nehru Park

Pres. R. P. Anand had invited all members with their spouse to the Kamala Nehru Park on Sunday, May 12, 2013 to see the new benches donated by our Club members and well wishers.

The following members gathered at the Kamla Nehru Park's amphitheatre sharp at 7.20 in the morning – PP Rtn. S B Anand, PP Rtn. Anil Ambo, Rtn. Manoj Jalan, Rtn. Krishna Khemka, Rtn. Kiran and Malti Shah, Rtn. Rajeev and Meena Anand, Inner Wheel Meryum Kajiji, Fatema Baldiwala and Aruna Sheth.



Pres. R. P. Anand took the Rotarians around the park and showed them the benches placed at different spots in the garden. The benches looked beautiful and perfect for people to sit and rest on and enjoy the beautiful environment of the park. Apart from the Rotarians, many regular morning walkers also participated as they appreciated Rotary's undertaking of providing new benches in the garden.

Finally RP had arranged delicious snacks and tea for all the participants who came along.

– Report by Rtn. Manoj Jalan



Completing the 'free shoes for all' project at Potkhal/Baste

As the gift of 155 pairs of shoes by 'Growing Hearts, Growing Minds Foundation' (Allegheny College) for children of the four preschools could not be completed due to lack of supplies, we took the balance stock on May 11 and had loads of fun fitting them on the kids – this being their last day of school before summer vacations began. There were screams of delight and smiling faces all round. It was really a treat for us – going all the way in this summer heat – just to see the smiles on the children's faces.



Kids being fitted with new shoes



Preschool teacher Vanitha Dive posing with shoes and educational aids

International Projects Committee Report –Catching up with Kegva Watershed Project



The handover function for desks and educational aids at Kegva



Rtn Yogesh posing with new desks

We also surveyed the work begun on a Cattle Pound – specially sanctioned by RI so that villagers can impound stray cattle which are otherwise damaging their crops (specially in winter).

– Article by PP Arrow Sinha Roy

Photo credits : PP Arrow and Rtn Yogesh Pandya

As reported in the last issue, the committee made major supplies of educational aids to the schools in Potkhal and Baste villages in April, under MG # 71045.

On May 11 it was the turn of Kegva village, where similar supplies were made against MG 71452. We wish our club members had been there to see the awe on the faces of teachers and students when 44 brand new desks were unloaded. Students from classes IV to VII will no longer be sitting on stone floors. Half of these were supplied under our MG project, while the remainder were donated under the \$ 100,000 grant by Royal Bank of Canada. We also distributed teaching aids such as library books, charts, globe, painting and drawing materials etc. The Principal and teachers were literally overwhelmed by the wealth of material that we presented, which nobody had done before in living memory, and a goodly crowd was there to cheer us. This included the lady Panchayat Head of Kegva village. We will soon make a repeat visit to deliver educational aids for the remaining schools at Kegva.



Shri Vinod Save of NIRID explaining educational aids to the Head Master

Celebrating a year at school...

Annual Function Report April 2013

The Annual Function of Kamla Mehta Dadar School for the Blind (KMDSB) is regularly held every year at their premises in Dadar. This year, the function was held on April 26, 2013 in the evening at 5.00 p.m. The main purpose of the function / performance has always been the prize distribution and a cultural programme. Rtn. Pres-Elect James Brunner, R/Ann Indira Brunner, Rtn. Gaurav G. Kapadia and Rtn. Naren Mohatta attended this function. Rtn. Pres. R.P. Anand sent his apology as he had to leave for Delhi on an urgent assignment.

Prior to the cultural function, the presentation of the school activities was arranged for the benefit of all present. It contained the demonstration of Braille writing on the Braille machine and on the Braille writing slates, arithmetic on the Taylor Frame and on the abacus, tactile maps, science experiments, cooking – mainly preparing poha, different daily living activities performed by little kids of the Braille Class (Pre-Primary), Rope Mallakhamb (yogic asana), etc.

After the demonstration of the school activities, the stage function took place. The students performed singing, dancing and acting. The highlight of the cultural programme was the performance of two group dances – based on Indian mythology. The musical base throughout the programme made it most effective.

Members of different Lions & Rotary Clubs, Chairperson and members of the school committee, and other dignitaries, were present at the programme. Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town was also represented. Incidentally, RCBMT has donated to KMDSB a sum of ₹1,31,000 so far. It is the intention of our Club to continuously support the welfare of the visually impaired students of KMDSB, as in the past.

– Report by Rtn. Naren Mohatta



Hansa Mehta, KMDSB Chairperson and James Brunner congratulate a student



Guest of honour giving a prize to a student



Visually challenged kids preparing meals



Visually challenged students perform acrobatics



Blind children singing devotional songs

Medical Screening Camp for Mobility Appliances held at Ambernath



Pres. R. P. Anand is seen giving a tri-wheeler
(L-R) Naren Mohatta, Gaurav Kapadia,
PP Kersi Hilloo, PE James & Indira Brunner



PE James Brunner giving a
leg- splint



Rtn. Gaurav Kapadia giving
a caliper



Pres. R. P Anand shakes hand with a patient



Ann Binaifer Hilloo giving a caliper

The distribution of various mobility appliances to the identified disabled at the screening camp held on April 21, 2013 by NASEOH through the support of Rotary Club of Bombay Mid Town and FUCHS Lubricants (I) Pvt. Ltd., was held on June 1, 2013 at the premises of Tehsil Office, Ambernath. The details of the appliances distributed are as follows:

Tricycles	: 21 Nos
Wheelchairs	: 08 Nos
Calipers & braces	: 23 Nos
Prosthesis	: 26 Nos.

Rtn. R. P. Anand, President, Rotary Club of Bombay Mid Town, Rtn. Kersi Hilloo, Past President, Rtn. James Brunner, President-Elect, Rtn. Gaurav Kapadia, Chairman - Care for Handicapped Committee, Rtn. Narendra Mohatta, Director, Mrs. Indira Brunner and Mrs. Binaifer Hilloo were present at the camp and distributed various appliances.

The camp was very successful in terms of the help extended to the very severely disabled like amputees, paraplegics and cerebral palsied. The financial support towards the cost of these appliances was received from Rotary Club of Bombay Mid Town, Aegis Foundation, SNS Charitable Trust and Give India. The team from NASEOH comprising of orthopaedic surgeon, social workers, physiotherapists and orthotic & prosthetic technicians co-ordinated the entire process of identification of beneficiaries, fabrication of aids and appliances, distribution and fitting of appliances.

— Report by Rtn. Gaurav G

Dear Sir,

Rotary club of Jalna is delighted that the quality and dedication of the Plastic surgery team is consistently recognised and appreciated at District 3132 in the last 10 years. This year again, we have received first place for best community service project in District 3132. This award is the hard work and dedication of RC Jalna, Staff of Jalna Mission Hospital, German Doctors team, Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town and Rotary Clubs of Columbia.

Congratulations to all.

A big thank you to D. G. Rtn. Ravindra Salunke for appreciating our efforts.

Rtn. Dr. Hitesh Raithatha
Secretary, Rotary Club of Jalna



Obituary

We regret to inform about the sad demise of Mr. Sunil Choksey, husband of Rtn. Aditi Choksey, who passed away on May 16. The members of RC Bombay Mid-Town extend their condolences to the bereaved family.



Brunners in Lakshadweep

James and Indira Brunner on life in Mumbai and beyond

How have you and Indira found living in India?

Indira and I have thoroughly enjoyed living in Mumbai for the past 8 years. We moved here at exactly the time of the 'monsoon of the century' in July 2005, our children and two cats in tow. I didn't know what to expect as I'd never lived in India before, though I had been visiting Indira's family in Bangalore annually since we got married in 1991. And for Indira, living in Mumbai was a new experience, having grown up mostly in Bangalore. I was not anxious but completely unsure on what to expect with the transition from Zurich, the "anti-Mumbai" in terms of population, orderliness, social habits, bedtimes, etc. From the beginning, Indira and I were seduced, excited, and stimulated by life in Mumbai.

Where do you think India stands in the global map? Are we progressing?

India is definitely evolving by all measures: economic, social, and cultural. Economically, India exercises increasingly great influence and power in the global marketplace.

Your comment on the importance of family.

More than anything, family defines you. You don't determine who your parents, siblings, cousins are, and you don't control or 'own' your spouse or children

(though you may influence them as they influence you). These fundamental relationships shape and inform your personality and behaviour, your goals and your values, your strengths and your weaknesses. Your family is with you and you with them at all times, consciously and unconsciously, throughout your life. Take care of your family.

Your and Indira's parenting tips

Don't give parenting tips! Seriously, every child and every parent/child relationship is unique and individual. What works for one, may be a disaster for another. Our two children, Mira and Jai, are very different personalities. I think you could ask them what, if anything, we did well as parents – I'm not sure that Indira and I would agree or even recognise ourselves in their descriptions! What I think we stressed most with Mira and Jai is to support and encourage them in finding their own ways in the world, and we love them with all our hearts.

What has been your experience with Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town

RCBMT has been a great, extended family for me since my coming to Mumbai. I shall be forever grateful to Mehernosh Currawalla and Arvind Doshi for having introduced me to the Club. I always enjoy my conversations and activities



Family Bangalore 2009



Family and friends reunion in New Jersey in 2012



American School Bombay's new campus pooja in 2012



Rotary Tennis matches - March 15 2009

with all of our members and am constantly surprised and impressed by the depth and breadth of knowledge and experience they have in so many fields. Our history of continuous, sustained service is exemplary and of great importance — for example, Baste Village, Naseoh, the Kamla Mehta School for the Blind to mention only a few. We, as a Club, are constantly examining ourselves as to how to improve – in doing that, we shouldn't lose sight of our great strengths and traditions. It has truly been an honour and a privilege to belong to this wonderful Club. My only regret is that my professional schedule imposes a constraint on the amount of time and energy I can devote to it.

As incoming President what are your key focus areas?

My key focus area as President for 2013/14 is the future of our club. I believe that we may well be near a turning point in how the Club develops and my goal is to lead us to a clear and common vision of how to ensure that the Club's future is as bright as has been its past. I'm lucky to have a great leadership team and we have already begun to tackle the fundamental issues (membership, attendance/participation, local versus regional/global focus) that will determine our future. I am also fortunate to have the support of so many past presidents and officers of the Club who have given and promised so generously of their time to address these critical issues. And perhaps, most of all, I have the treasured support of Mohan Lalvani, both.

VP/President Elect 2014/2015 and Past President, to ensure continuity over the next two years.

In Rotary what is your comment on a) Social Service b) Fellowship c) Attendance

a) As others have so rightly said, the purpose of Rotary is service. What unites us all inspite of our different



With my brother Steven in New York City

backgrounds and particular interests is a strong, common desire to serve our community. Rotary in general and our Club in particular provide us a ready-made platform with resources and standards that we can leverage to get the 'biggest bang for the buck'. There are many organizations dedicated to service, but ours has both global scale and local focus, a unique combination that offers us great opportunities to really make a difference.

- b) Fellowship is the glue that binds us together. There are so many different ways for all members and their families to contribute to service, depending on ability, availability, and need. However, fellowship events cross over these boundaries and bring us all together to share our experiences, learn from each other, and truly enjoy each other's company.
- c) Attendance is I think a misleading term. It has come to mean the number of weekly meetings one is present at, either in person or remotely. My understanding, however, is that Attendance should encompass all participation in Club activities, whether it is the weekly Club meeting, or Committee meetings, or Club work (putting together Musings, for example), or District events, or – of greatest importance – service activities. My goal for this year and beyond is to increase PARTICIPATION, not just attendance at the weekly meeting.

Can you share with us your philosophy of life?

What I tell my children and young people seeking advice is that "life's not a race, or a competition – there is no prize for finishing first, and there's no prize for 'best' anything".

– Interview by Rtn. Prasanna Bhagat

Do share with us some of your and Indira's favourites		
	James	Indira
Movie	Gilda	36 Chowringhee Lane and Samskara
Singer	Robert Wyatt	M. S. Subbulakshmi
Cusine	South Indian (rasam)	South Indian and Italian
Restaraunt	Ram Nayak and Wasabi	The Table
Holiday Destination	Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep and Dublin, New Hampshire

Ron D. Burton President elect, Rotary International 2013–2014

Membership growth, membership development, membership retention, membership plans — membership is like the weather. We spend a lot of time talking about it. But, unlike the weather we can do something about membership. Like almost everything in Rotary, the key is not what committees say or what boards decide, but rather what Rotarians and Rotary Clubs 'Do'.

Every Rotarian in every club is there because at some time in the past a Rotarian invited him or her into membership. The Rotarians who have remained in their clubs for a number of years have done so because they have found membership to be meaningful and to provide opportunities for fellowship and service that they value. So why doesn't every Rotarian invite a friend or colleague to become a Rotarian?

We are working to develop regional membership plans to help this happen. These plans are to be culturally appropriate to local situations and provide ideas and support to bring this goal to reality. These are important



tools with which to build and strengthen membership. We are looking for ways to help clubs remain vibrant and engaging. This is important in retaining members long term. But all of this is aimed at one thing: encouraging Rotarians to invite others to join Rotary.

In August, I wrote to the class of 2013–14 Governors asking each of them to bring in a new member before the 2013 International Assembly. If the 'Class of 2013–14' meets this challenge we will do something extraordinary in the annals of Rotary history. I told them, "We can

distinguish ourselves as the first class ever to have every District Governor-elect sponsor a member. And, while we may not always be the only class to do it, we will always be the first class."

Membership will be a major focus in all the training these incoming governors will receive. It is a topic that will receive significant attention at the International Assembly and beyond. I believe we are on the right path. But it requires the commitment and follow-through of every Rotarian in every club in every community around the world to really make a lasting impact on our membership numbers.

What would happen if just three people in each club invited one new member each month for a year? We would have over 1.2 million new members in just one year!

Rotary is an important part of the lives of the 1.2 million Rotarians of today. It is up to us to share the benefits and rewards of Rotary membership with another 1.2 million people. The world needs Rotary and Rotary needs committed and energetic Rotarians. Don't hide or hoard the gift of Rotary. If every Rotary were to share that gift with just one other person, the results would be amazing.

Generosity calls!

The INR has been declining steadily in the past few days and is now hovering upwards of around 1 USD = INR 56. The rupee hit its lowest in 11 months. However, the rate for contributions to the TRF which has been announced for June 2013, yet remains unchanged. It is now USD 1 = INR 54.00. Please avail of this great opportunity to make your contributions to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) at this low rate before it is revised upwards! The exchange rate is applicable for all payments to Rotary International South Asia Office and contributions should be made out to the name of "The Rotary Foundation (India)".



Our PP Mehernosh Currawalla attended a meeting of Schotten, Germany. It was a joint meeting with Rotaractors of Rotaract Club of Nidda for their first Charter night when their District Governor, Jorg Goll of District # 1820, was also in attendance. Our club has an Exchange Programme going with Rotary club of Nidda, Germany, seen (extreme left) Mehernosh and Manfred Knoll (second from right) with some of the German kids who came to India, and one or two fresh ones who are going to arrive in the next exchange group to India.



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY MID-TOWN
OFFICE BEARERS 2012-13

President:	R P Anand
Imm. Past President:	Kersi Hilloo
Vice President and President Elect :	James Brunner
Hon. Secretary:	Manoj Jalan
Jt. Hon. Secretary:	PP Anil Ambo
Addl. Jt. Secretary:	Rajen Patel
Hon. Treasurer:	PP Anil Kamath
Sergeant At Arms:	Munna Mitha

INVITEES TO BOARD MEETINGS 2012-13

PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth, PP Navin Shah, PP Mohan Lalvani

Director Club Service: Kamlesh Sonawala

Programmes :	Sucharita Hegde
Fellowship:	PP Ajit Kamrani
	Co-Chair: PP Mohan Lalvani
	PP Vishnubhai Haribhakti
Finance:	PP Tilak Mehta
Attendance:	PP Dr Firoze Mirza
Bye Laws:	Kamlesh Sonawala
Fund Rasing:	Co-Chair: PP Rahul Mehta
	PP Yoginder Shankardass
Classification:	Shaunak Thacker
Membership:	Zeenat Ali
Membership Development:	PP Gopal Motwane
Rotary Information:	Sunil Gautam
Bulletin / Magazine:	Sunil Gautam
Public Relations:	Sunil Gautam

Director Vocational Service: Ashwin Shah

Career Guidance:	Prasanna Bhagat
Midtown Image Project:	PP Anil Ambo
Scholarships & Awards:	PP Satya Bhushan Anand
Four Way Test:	Rajeev Thakkar
Senior Citizens Welfare:	Kishore Jhaveri
Financial Opportunity Forum:	Parag Parikh

Director Community Service: Narendra Mohatta
Human Development

Child welfare:	Dr Ghanshyam Kasbekar
	Co Chair: Dr Deepak Garg

Community Development

Nere-Vaje Village	
Development Project:	Nirbhay Jain
Polio & Care of Physically Challenged:	Gaurav Kapadia
Medical – Plastic Surgery Camp:	Dr Anil Tibrewalla
Medical camps and support to service projects:	PP Dr Kirit Mody
	Co-Chair: Dr Varsha Vadera

Sakwar Area Adivasi Development:	Kishore Sharma
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Environment

Environment & Nature Education:	PP Lalit Gokuldas
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Partners in Service

Rotary District Relations	PP Anil Kamath
Inner Wheel	PP Mohan Lalvani

Director new generation: Vicky Punjabi

Interact	Jamsheed Patel
Rotaract	PP Anil Ambo
Sports	Harshad C Vora

Director International Projects: PP Arrow Sinha Roy

International Grant Projects:	PP Arrow Sinha Roy
	Co Chair: PP Anil Kamath
	Co Chair : Yogesh Pandya

International Family & Youth Exchange:	Santosh Kejriwal
	Co Chair: Manoj Jalan

Rotary Foundation:	Rajeev R Anand
Rotary Sister Clubs Exchange:	Bernard Steinruecke

Assistant Governor:	Dr Rumi Jehangir
Group Coordinator:	Aditya Singh

June
<< Wedding Anniversary >>

- 01 Sudha and Arun Mehta
- 02 Bindu and Rahul Mehta
- 05 Uttara and Ajoy Bhandare
- 15 Pratibha and Arvind Doshi
- 18 Shalini and Dilip Piramal
- 18 Snehlata and Shashikant Bhartia
- 22 Ila and Kamlesh Sonawala
- 27 Dr.Vimal and Dr. Arvind Kasbekar

<< Spouse's Birthdays >>

- 01 Jyotika Atul Premnarayan
- 04 Nazneen Jamsheed Patel
- 05 Dr. Pratibha Arvind Doshi
- 09 Zubi Shaleh Tyebjee
- 10 Sonali Manoj Jalan
- 13 Hernangini Rajiv Thakker
- 14 Purnima Gaurav Kapadia
- 18 Chandra Om Degan
- 19 Ashok Tilak Mehta
- 21 Pragati Deepak Gupta
- 23 Niharika Sohrab Davar

<< EVENTS IN JUNE >>
05 Wednesday

CCC&B / Fellowship dinner @
Wodehouse Gymkhana at 7.00 p.m.

12 Wednesday

ISKCON MD, who will speak on their
"Midday Meal Project" @ The Taj Mahal
Palace Hotel at 1.15 p.m.

14 Friday

Gujarat Fellowship Night

19 Wednesday

Open (may be Fellowship meeting)

26 Wednesday

Swami Swatmanandji, who will speak on
"Stress in today's times" @ The Taj Mahal
Palace Hotel at 1.15 p.m.

<< Birthdays >>


7 JUNE
Ashwin Shah



3 JUNE
Tarla Dalal



10 JUNE
Jaswant Rai



25 JUNE
Dinyar Jamshedji



26 JUNE
Rohit Patel



27 JUNE
Nitin Mukesh



29 JUNE
Bernhard
Steinruecke

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preferably by the 16th of every month.